

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0057] (published in 20020138795 as paragraphs [0062] though [0064]) with the following amended paragraph:

[0057] For better performance, an alternative embodiment of the disclosed method is illustrated in ~~Figure 12~~ Figure 13. The two signals, $x(k)$ and $y(k)$, are first weighted in the frequency domain before inversely transforming back to time domain. For MDCT transform,

$$x(k) = \text{IMDCT}[\alpha(r)X(r)] \quad (7)$$

$$y(k) = \text{IMDCT}[\beta(r)Y(r)] \quad (8)$$

where $\alpha(r)$ and $\beta(r)$ are weighting functions in the frequency domain similar to the weighting functions in equation (1). The replacement signal ~~$z(k)$~~ 275 ($z(k)$) is then constructed as

$$z(k) = a(k)x(k) + b(k)y(k), \quad 0 \leq k \leq 2N-1 \quad (9)$$

where $a(k)$ and $b(k)$ are weighting functions in the time domain with constraints of

$$a(k) + b(k) = 1, \quad 0 \leq k \leq 2N-1 \quad (10)$$

$$a(k), b(k) \geq 0, \quad 0 \leq k \leq 2N-1 \quad (11)$$